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Sales Tax Case Handed To Judge

Circuit Judge William H. Baldwin called court to order at 9:00 a.m. Friday morning, December 29, in the Enterprise courthouse.

Approximately fifty people gathered in the courtroom in anticipation of a ruling being made in the legality of a 1/2% Coffee County sales tax.

The tax was imposed by the Coffee County Commission on July 17 in order to fund the building of a new county jail in New Brockton. The building of a new jail was brought about as part of an out-of-court settlement in a case, Moore vs Paul, being tried in federal court.

NEW JAIL MUST BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 1990

A new jail must be completed by September 1990 in order to meet a U.S. federal district court consent decree.

The 1/2% sales tax has been being collected by the county since November 1, but the legality has been challenged by the Taxpayers' Defense Committee. They have questioned the Coffee County Commission's authority to levy the sales tax.

A judgement was filed October 27 by the committee maintaining that the county commission did not have the authority to impose the sales tax because the "special tax" referred to in the State Code relates only to property tax.

The commission defends its right to impose the tax stating that two sections of the Code of Alabama specifically gives them the authority to do so.

Judge Baldwin, presiding circuit judge for the 22nd Judicial Circuit, was appointed by the Alabama Supreme Court and Administrative Office of Courts to hear the case. He resides in Andalusia, Alabama.

SPECIAL JUDGE APPOINTED BY ALABAMA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR SALES TAX CASE

Local county circuit and district judges asked to be relieved of this responsibility because of their "personal involvement" (social acquaintances and friendships) with parties involved in the case.

Both attorneys, Paul Young, representing the committee and Daryl Masters, representing the commission, presented the court with written brief. Neither attorney chose to make an oral presentation to the court.

However, Judge Baldwin did ask the county's attorney, Masters, to explain to the court how this case would delay the settlement of the case (Moore vs Paul) now in federal court. This assertion had been made in the brief offered to the court by the commission's attorney.

Masters said that showing every possible act of good faith to carry out the court (federal) decree was an essential part of the county's response in the inmate's case.

JUDGE WILLIAM BALDWIN HOPES TO MAKE A RULING IN THE CASE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 15

Judge Baldwin, after asking if there was any other evidence or statements to be presented to the court at this time, stated that he would review each of the briefs and render his decision on or before January 15. Each of the brief consisted of 10 or 11 pages.

The hearing had lasted only about fifteen minutes from beginning to end.

After court, several members of the commission expressed their surprise to the shortness of the session. They stated that they thought there would be witnesses called and testimony given, but that was up to their attorney.



After court was adjourned and the courtroom began to clear, Commissioners Eagerton, DuBose Crittenden, Bradley and County Administrator Mobley are shown discussing action taken in the sales tax case. The commissioners seemed to be somewhat surprised by how short "their day in court" had been. The consensus of the commissioners and others present seemed to be that this was only the beginning!

Good News For Coffee County DHR

Ronald Smith, Director of Human Resources, states that the agency continues to operate in a smooth and efficient manner. "We continue to have staff vacancies," he said, "but I am working with Mr. Williams, Regional Manager, on the filling of these vacancies."

The Franchise Tax was declared to be legal by the State of Alabama Supreme Court. This was good news to the department of human resources. Hopefully, with this development the staff hiring freeze will be lifted and much needed staff can be employed.

The DHR is working with the Enterprise Christian Mission to establish a clearinghouse for people asking for assistance. The purpose of this is to prevent clients from

getting aid from several places at the same time.

The clearinghouse will assure that clients get what they need, but not more than they need. It will also make available resources go further so that more people can be helped.

Information between the agencies is transmitted by FAX machines in each respective agency and is speedy and efficient.

Myma Rhoades, children's services supervisor, reports that the following investigations involving children have been conducted by the agency.

Thirteen (13) cases of physical abuse, eleven (11) cases of neglect, six (6) cases of sexual abuse and three (3) cases of emotional abuse.



Work continues on the installation of drainage pipe under Putnam Street. Mayor Fred Moore apologized for the inconvenience caused by the street being closed for the passed few weeks. He states that the work has been slowed by the weather and by crews having to work around a major water main and sewage line that runs beneath the surface of the road. Mayor Moore stated that the positive side of this situation was that by city crews doing the work the cost savings will be realized by the City of Elba. If a contractor had been hired to install the drain pipe, it would have cost the city an estimated additional \$5,000.



NEW BUSINESS OPENS IN ELBA as Mayor Fred Moore joins Virgil Coleman in ribbon cutting ceremonies at Coleman's Mortuary. Mr. Coleman, his family and his staff were joined by Mayor Moore, Commissioner Robert Stephens, and friends as they welcomed everyone to share in the grand opening Tuesday, December 26. Mrs. Annie Ford, Mr. Coleman's daughter, served as master of ceremonies for the occasion. During the ceremony, Mr. Coleman, told those gathered that he and his staff wished to continue his more than three decades of service to the public in and around the Elba area. After the formal ceremony, refreshments were enjoyed by all present.

Sen. Shelby To Hold Public Forum

During the month of January, U. S. Senator Richard Shelby will begin his fourth round of county wide public forums since taking office in January in 1987. On Wednesday, January 17, 1990, Alabama's junior Senator will meet with constituents in Coffee County. The public forum will be held at 4:30 p.m. at the City Hall in Elba.

In announcing his January schedule, Senator Shelby comment-

ed: "During my campaign for the Senate, I promised to visit every county in the state of Alabama at least once a year. In 1987, 1988, and 1989, I successfully fulfilled that promise. Coming back to the state is one of my most important activities because it provides me the opportunity to listen to the ideas and concerns of the people of Alabama. Feedback of issues is extremely important. Knowing the

opinions of Alabamians, I can better represent the state when legislation is brought before the United States Senate for consideration. I look forward to meeting with the residents of Coffee County."

Members of the Senator's staff will be present to assist individuals with case work or any personal problems encountered with the federal government. The public is invited to attend.

COOPERATION DURING EXTREME COLD WEATHER

Gas Company Has Praise For Users & Employees

"Bless our customers - they saved the day for us during the pre-Christmas cold spell." The speaker is James H. Smith, manager of the Southeast Alabama Gas District, which distributes natural gas to 14 Southeast Alabama counties.

Smith knows that the cooperation of the district's 32,000 customers, coupled with the support of every part of the community, kept the District from losing pressure and shutting down on December 23 and 24, when the mercury hung close to 10 degrees.

"We called on our customers to lower their thermostat settings, and

they did," Smith said. "We cut off commercial and industrial customers to keep gas flowing to homes, hospitals, and other essential users. Everybody cooperated, and we are grateful."

Smith said that the media were of tremendous assistance. "Radio and T. V. broadcast public service announcements for us, and the newspapers cooperated fully. We will thank them by letter very soon. Then too, we had to call back many of our employees who were enjoying the holidays at home, and put them to work. They responded cheerfully, and they got the job done."

Smith contrasted the recent freeze with an earlier crisis. "In about 1961," he said, "a severe cold snap strained our distribution system so badly that many customers lost service. I was not with the District at that time, but I've been told that the temperature stayed around 17 degrees above zero for several days. Before the weather eased, many of our customers lost natural

gas service, including about a third of homes in Dothan.

"This time we had more warning of the cold," Smith said, "and we knew how to handle it better. We took certain steps within our system and got word out to our customers, and cut off most of our non-residential customers early on."

"We came through in fine shape," Smith said, "but only because everybody cooperated. I can't say enough in praise of the people of Southeast Alabama. Our employees, the media, and especially our customers all worked together, and was made it. The District thanks all of you."

Late Sign-Up Is Set At ESJC Through Jan 8

There's still time to register for Winter Quarter classes at Enterprise State Junior College.

Late registration continues through January 8 for day classes and Monday - Wednesday night classes.

Tuesday - Thursday night classes will be open through Tuesday, January 9.

For more information, call the main campus at 393-ESJC, 1-800-874-3399, or come by the Admissions Office in the Administration Building.

Persons in the Fort Rucker area may come by our Fort Rucker office, Bldg. 5008, Room 5, telephone 598-3438.

City Hall Will Be Closed Jan. 15th

Pat Booth, Elba City Clerk, informed this newspaper that Elba City hall will be closed Monday, January 15, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The 15th is normally the final day for the paying of utility bills, but due to the closing, the deadline will be the 16th of January.

Mrs. Booth asked that plans to pay your utility bills be made accordingly.

City Business
Licenses Are
Due Now!



BETTY LEWIS RECENTLY RETIRED from The Peoples Bank after 25 years of service. She was honored last week by bank management and employees when she was presented a diamond pendant and a plaque commemorating her many years of devoted service to the bank and the community. Pictured above are from left Chairman Drexel Cook, Mrs. Lewis, President Kenneth Grantham, who made the presentation, and Vice President Doris Mathews.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

During the holiday season we received a telephone call at home from a "friend" of Deputy Sheriff Tom Weeks. He was at a party, we could tell from the background noise. The purpose of his call was to carry out a threat he had just made to Tom and that was to call us and report he was working on overtime! Now both of them know how we dislike overtime in the sheriff's department and this mutual friend of ours was either trying to get Tom in trouble or upset our Christmas holiday. Anyway the party probably continued and we didn't let the obvious joke attempt on Mr. Weeks ruin our holiday either. Now that the season is over we will get back on our horse and lead the charge against the things we don't like.

We have no idea what will ultimately happen in Panama with that rascal who is hiding in the Catholic embassy but we don't really want him in the U.S. It isn't nice to wish anyone would be killed but honestly we feel life would move on smoother and faster if Noriega were to meet the same fate as the disposed leader of Romania... the firing squad made up of his fellow countrymen. It is ironic, but probably the safest place for Noriega is in the U.S., where our government of the people, by the people and for the people will surely not put him before a firing squad, etc. We will spend millions protecting him while we spend millions more trying to decide if we want to put him on trial. It will go on and on until finally we forget how bad we think he really is and the matter will be dropped.

We received a news release last week from the folks at Six Flags Over Georgia. They are getting ready to audition talent of singers, dancers, etc. to entertain during the 1990 season. They like high school and college students who are interested in summer jobs and experience in entertaining. The auditions will be held in January. If you are interested and want more information, call them at 404-739-3450. You have to be at least 16 years old to be one of their entertainers. We also have known of some college students who enjoyed selling ice cream, tickets, etc. up there during their summer breaks.

Life can sure give us a rough time when we least expect it. One day last week, along about the end of the week, we were doing some end of the year cleaning around the office and being Mr. Nice Guy in general when along comes a "friend" wanting to show us something in his truck. Well, that turned out to be a very bad idea. He had a very large fish in the back of it and had been fishing... successfully! He reached down in the back of that pickup and pulled out a big old catfish (weighing about three pounds) and then complained that the beam were just "good eating size". Don't let anyone tell you that fish don't bite when the water temperature drops below 60 degrees. Here we were just coming off a cold snap that had over 60 degrees and this guy was catching fish.

We received a letter a couple of weeks ago with a return address of Morristown, TN and couldn't guess who it was. It would have been Mr. or Mrs. Novak, a native of Czechoslovakia, who moved from Elba with her parents when her father resigned as minister of the local Church of Christ last summer. Melissa sent us a copy of the high school newspaper where she is enrolled. It didn't take them long to recognize her talents, as she was named an assistant editor before the very first issue of the paper went to press... and that is from a staff of over 40 on the paper! The publication is an 8 1/2 x 11 format with 18 pages. Very impressive, but then if Melissa gets involved, we wouldn't expect any less.

We have learned how NOT to end up New Year's Day bug-eyed from watching ball games all day. We picked out two games to watch and it was the Auburn game and the Alabama game and just went back to the office between them. Actually we did a little channel switching during commercials and time out to keep up with some others. But we didn't spend a whole day and night there as we have done in years past. We are getting better or at least more disciplined.

Girl Scout Cookie Time Is Drawing Near

Girl Scout Cookie time is now approaching, and Elba Scouts and Brownies will be participating in the annual event.

Sale date will be Feb. 23 - March 10, but pre-sale orders will be taken Jan. 12-27. Cookies also may be bought direct during the sale.

Price of the cookies will be \$2.50 per box, and will include: Little Brownie Bakers - Thin Mints, Trefoil (shortbread), Tagalongs (peanut butter sandwich), Daisies (peanut butter parcels), Sam-wangs (country heart), Cheesecake Chip, and Cabana Creams (sandwich cookie assortment).

Brownies, Junior Scouts and Senior Scouts will be participating in the cookie drive.

The annual cookie sale is a service project and profits are used to provide direct services to girls and maintain three council campsites, including the local Hummingbird Scout Camp.

For information about the cookies, call Carol Lancy, Faye Farris or Kaye Farris, or any member of Senior Scout Troop 300.

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POLICE REPORT

Police activity for the week beginning Tuesday, December 26, included the investigation of the following incidents: four thefts, one criminal mischief, and two assaults.

The following arrests were made: five for speeding, four for D.U.I., one for attempting to elude, two for assault, one for reckless driving, one driver's license required, one for expired tag, one for failure to appear, one for possession of marijuana, one for V.P.L., and one for driving on the wrong side of the road.

Daily reports are as follows:

TUESDAY, DEC. 26
Subject reported with a gun on Taylor Mill Rd. (8:01 a.m.); Fire in the Zor Comm. (2:01 p.m.); Grass fire on Co. Rd. 28 (3:31 p.m.); Rescue run to residence on Co. Rd. 21 (8:12 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27
Alarm @ Kelley Foods (10:40 a.m.); Wreck on Hwy. 84W (12:10 p.m.); Grass fire on Putnam St. (1:31 p.m.); Fire @ Vaughan Apt. on Factory St. (3:40 p.m.); Possible prowler on Claxton Ave. (8:59 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 28
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

FRIDAY, DEC. 29
Wreck @ Danley's Crossroads (11:47 a.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, DEC. 30
Disturbance at 641 Jackson St. (11:24 a.m.); Disturbance on Sloumdire St. (11:41 a.m.); Grass fire on Caroline St. (12:58 p.m.); Disturbance at 1320 Reynolds St. (2:26 p.m.); Wreck @ United Super (5:25 p.m.).

SUNDAY, DEC. 31
Possible prowler on Highland Dr. (2:58 a.m.); Alarm @ Showme (7:11 a.m.); Corner called to residence on New Hope Comm. (1:10 p.m.).

MONDAY, JAN. 1
Disturbance @ Morrow Village (2:37 p.m.); Rescue run to residence on Smith Ave. (8:25 p.m.); Rescue run to Rusty Gray's (8:58 p.m.); Fight @ Gray's Grocery (10:38 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JAN. 2
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

THURSDAY, JAN. 4
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

FRIDAY, JAN. 5
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

SATURDAY, JAN. 6
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

SUNDAY, JAN. 7
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

MONDAY, JAN. 8
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

TUESDAY, JAN. 9
Alarm @ Kleiner's (5:57 a.m.);

TSUD Offers Graduate And Undergraduate Degree Program

The Troy State University at Dothan School of Business offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate degree programs that are designed to provide educational opportunities in the commerce and industry disciplines.

The TSUD School of Business offers undergraduate business administration programs in Accounting, Computer and Information Systems, Economics, General Business, Management, Management Information Systems, Marketing, and Finance.

The School of Business graduate programs include master's degree programs in Business Administration and Personnel Management.

For more information on the TSUD School of Business contact Dean Crawford Buchanan at (205) 792-7520.

TSUD will hold winter registration Tuesday and Wednesday, January 2 and 3 from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the downtown campus and Fort Rucker Branch campus.

Governor Hunt recently announced a \$19,500 grant to the Coffee County Commission to better prepare 15 homes during the coming six months, allowing them to devote their money to buying more clothes, food or other necessities, giving their families a better way of life.

The Department of Energy grant will be administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

The commission will decide which Coffee County homes receive work based on considerations which emphasize helping households where the elderly or young children live.

"I am happy to be able to help these residents who do not have the resources to repair their homes," Governor Hunt said. "I especially am proud to be able to help the elderly and young children who are most vulnerable to harsh weather."

The Alabama State Personnel Department recently announced examinations for filling present job vacancies in the following positions:

Real Estate Specialist I (\$17,800 - \$27,040)
Docks Cargo Billing Manager (\$24,523 - \$37,154)
Veterinarian Pathologist (\$31,278 - \$47,658)
Sheltered Workshop Supervisor (\$13,900 - \$20,155)
Metal Shop Assistant Supervisor (\$16,926 - \$25,750)
Aircraft Pilot 1 - (\$25,750 - \$39,026)
Radio Board Operator (\$9,854 - \$12,906)

Full information and application forms may be obtained from the State Personnel Department at Montgomery or from any local office of the State Employment Service.

Applications should be filed by January 16, 1990.

These positions will remain open until further notice.

Applications will be accepted and appointments made on an equal opportunity, merit basis without regard to sex, race or color.

Allen Johnson, Freda Pope, Rachelle Boothe, Donald Mobley, Jesse Brady, Jimmy Thigpen, Hayward Bowden, Merle Bragg, W. J. Bullard, L. F. Capps, Erma Brown, Judy Brumby, Edward Brown, Jacob Tindell, Minnie P. Lindsey, Odessa Brown, and Jennifer Hollinghead.

Those discharged during the same time period were:

Allen Johnson, Freda Pope, Rachelle Boothe, Donald Mobley, Jesse Brady, Jimmy Thigpen, Hayward Bowden, Merle Bragg, W. J. Bullard, L. F. Capps, Erma Brown, Judy Brumby, Edward Brown, Jacob Tindell, Minnie P. Lindsey, Odessa Brown, and Jennifer Hollinghead.



ZCS CHRISTMAS TREE (pictured above) is the Zion Chapel Elementary School's Christmas tree. The tree is decorated with ornaments made by each student in every class in the Elementary School.

Elementary Christmas Tree

To get into the spirit of Christmas the Zion Chapel Elementary School put up a Christmas tree. This is no ordinary tree. It is approximately 14 feet tall and is covered with decorations.

What makes this tree so special is that each student in the elementary helped to decorate it. Every student in kindergarten through sixth grade made his or her own personalized ornament. Most of these ornaments are very different, but at the same time more attractive than you have ever seen. The students enjoyed decorating their special tree.

Zion Chapel Band News

Christmas Party
By: Deena Grant
The Zion Chapel High School Band held their annual Christmas party Thursday, December 14, in the cafeteria at Zion Chapel High School. The party was sponsored by the Zion Chapel Band Boosters. The Boosters provided the food and decorations for the party. Students were allowed to bring music of their choice to listen and dance to.

Presenters were awarded to several band members by playing various party games, and by registering for door prizes.

Mrs. Amanda Ford, band director at Zion Chapel, received a special Christmas gift from the entire band, and several gifts from individual band members.

By everyone having fun and enjoying each other's Christmas spirit, the party was pronounced a great success.

Demonstration Band
By: Aimee Routzong
The Zion Chapel High School Band has been selected to be a Demonstration Band for John O'Reilly at the Seventeenth Annual Southeastern United States Concert Band Clinic.

The Rebel Band was one of five bands chosen from Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi to be a demonstration band for Mr. O'Reilly.

To be chosen, a band must make superior ratings at a state competition level. The Rebel Band accomplished this last April. Mrs. Amanda Ford, band director, said, "This is a very prestigious honor for our band to receive."

Mr. John O'Reilly is one of the most respected composers of school music, and is known throughout the world. Mr. O'Reilly is an expert on beginning band techniques, and is also the author of the Yamaha Band Method, which is a series of books for the beginning musician.

The Rebel Concert Band received a superior rating at state competition level, playing Mr. O'Reilly's "Jefferson County Overture."

The band received three new pieces of music from the press from Alfred Publishing Company, that Mr. O'Reilly wrote and was accompanied by Susan Fieldstein.

The band will be allowed to keep all the arrangements of music. Mr. O'Reilly's Yamaha Beginning Band books will also be sent to the band.



Shannon Ward Chosen As Cover Miss

By: Sharon Rodgers
Shannon Ward brought the area Cover Miss title home to Zion Chapel. The Cover Miss Pageant for Vogue Magazine was held for the area in Troy. Shannon's prize for winning the title was a \$200 savings bond.

Shannon will represent the Troy area in the National Cover Miss Pageant to be held in Dayton, Florida, June 30.

The winner of the Cover Miss Pageant will be on the cover of Vogue and will win a new automobile, along with other prizes.

Z.C. Junior Class Creates The Legend Of The Class Ring

By: Aimee Routzong
Members of the Zion Chapel Junior Class recently created a legend concerning their new class rings. The legend was created for future members of the Junior Class to follow when they receive their class rings.

The legend is as follows:
It was a day full of suspense and excitement as the Class of '91 waited for Godfather Rusty Parker to arrive with their brand new class rings. It seemed as if 1000 p.m. would never arrive. Moments before 1:00 p.m. the seniors started piling themselves into the library with money in their hands. At last, after 11 years of hard work and dedication they received their golden reward - A Class Ring!

Godfather Rusty explained the process a junior must go through before he/she can successfully complete their senior year.

First, a junior must have the ring turned around their pinky finger one less time than of their graduating senior year. The first person to turn their ring must be a person of the same sex. This person is the official opener of the door of happiness and success of their senior year. The last person to turn the ring must turn it away from your pinky. This person is a special somebody, either a best friend, girlfriend, or a boyfriend.

The last person to turn the ring will receive the honor of being your Guardian Angel for your senior year. If you do not have the ring turned the correct number of times you will be cursed throughout your senior year.

Arguments with teachers and friends, failing tests, and awful senior portraits are just some of the many curses that will be laid upon you.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?
The Zion Chapel Spanish Club held its annual Christmas party on December 15, 1989.

The party began with Mrs. Menday and Tina Daniels inviting all of the members to rejoice and enjoy themselves. There were refreshments and music. Refreshments included, sodas, chips, cupcakes, candy and cookies. Music played was Reggae, Luther Vandross, and D'Angelo.

The party ended with Christmas carols and laughter.

Spanish Club Has Christmas Party
By: Catherine Rodgers
The Zion Chapel Spanish Club held its annual Christmas party on December 15, 1989.

The party began with Mrs. Menday and Tina Daniels inviting all of the members to rejoice and enjoy themselves. There were refreshments and music. Refreshments included, sodas, chips, cupcakes, candy and cookies. Music played was Reggae, Luther Vandross, and D'Angelo.



Mrs. Sullivan Teaches Indian Education

By: Steacy Black
Mrs. Deborah Sullivan is Zion Chapel's newest faculty member. She teaches the Indian Education class for elementary and high school students.

Mrs. Sullivan attended Troy State University where she earned a B.A. in English and French. She is currently enrolled in graduate school completing her Master's Degree in English.

This year's Indian Education class will be working with Apple computers, which were formerly funded under the Indian Education Program. Not only will the computer program be offered to Indian Education class students, but to all students in grades K-6 and the 8th grade students in the Life Skills class from the high school. All students will go to the computer lab one day each week for one hour. Twelve students will go to the class at one time, and this will allow each student to have his or her own computer.

There are six different general programs for students to choose from and 226 programs in each of the six. Language includes phonics (vowels and consonants), spelling skills, and reading logs and words. Math includes working with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing, decimals, fractions, and graphs. It deals with learning to tell the time and measuring objects with a ruler. Science deals with earth facts, nature, ecology, scientific processes, and elements of the earth. Social studies includes facts of pioneers and presidents, the Middle East, North America, and Latin America, the fifty states, and the world community economies.

Thinking skills pertain to the simplifying of problems, exhaustive listening and trial and error. Computer Skills explains how various programs work by word processing and computer presentations. The class also offers a program for teachers called Apple. This allows the teacher to make out tests and worksheets for students. The Indian Education program will begin on January 2. The students will also be preparing for a Computer Science Fair to be held in March at the Enterprise State Junior College.

Magic Clown Visits Elementary School

By: Jennifer Flowers
Dure Buggy, the magic clown, recently visited Zion Chapel Elementary School.

While there, he performed many magic tricks, created balloon sculptures, and made an excited group of children laugh with joy.

"Dure Buggy" is originally known as Colonel Jim Russell. He is a professional clown, magician, balloon sculptor, and entertainer. Mr. Russell received a B.S. degree in Agriculture from Middle Tennessee State University and he is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He is also a member of regional, national, and international awards.

Students that wanted to view the show had to pay \$1.00.

Class Studies Genetics

By: Wendy Chancellor
The tenth grade Biology classes have been studying genetics. Genetics is the science of heredity. A person's heredity consists of those traits or characteristics that are inherited from parents.

The students have been crossing certain traits in plants and animals to determine what traits their offspring could have.

This information is very important to know because certain people who carry genes for diseases might not want to have any children, because of the risk of the child having the disease would be very high.

Old Santa Was Real!

By: Keri Moore
Once upon a time there was little boy named Charlie Amel Frances Stephens who never believed in Santa Claus. When the kids would say, "I wonder what Santa will give me this year?" But, Charlie would just say, "You believe in that old joke. Huh."

Well the other kids just ignored him. Then on Christmas Eve Charlie saw a great big light in the sky. It looked like a sleigh with 8 reindeer guiding it. At the front of the reindeer was a bright red light. He thought there was a sleigh right before him. He was dreaming. He went inside and turned on the fireplace. He heard this noise in the fireplace that sounded like someone yelling. He looked and there stood Santa. Charlie asked, "What's wrong?" Santa said, "You left the fire burning and I burned myself. So remember you've got to turn the fireplace down so Santa won't get burned." As for Charlie, he believed in Santa forevermore.

When the students returned to school they wrapped their gifts, and presented them to Santa Claus. Santa was exchanging of their gifts on the last day of school before the holidays.

FBLA December Meeting Held
By: Stephanie Goodson
The December monthly Future Business Leaders of America meeting was called to order by FBLA president, Stephanie Goodson.

During the meeting, the club talked about how well the FBLA float turned out for the Elba Christmas parade. The students also discussed the FBLA District Competition which will be held at Smith Station in March. Tate Gatlin will compete in Business Math and Stephanie Goodson will compete in Business English. Jennifer Flowers, Aimee Routzong, Camille Haynes, Pam Evans, and Donna Holcomb will participate in the talent competition. It is undecided who will compete in other categories at the yearly competition.

Mrs. Bryan also announced that any club member that brought more than 25 pennies would receive a larger surprise. Once the meeting was adjourned, the club held a small Christmas party. Tate Gatlin and Stephanie Goodson provided the FBLA with holiday refreshments.

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Social News



Miss Young
To Marry
Mr. Talbott

Gladys Clark and Dr. Talmage

Gladys Clark Donates And Establishes Scholarship At ESJC Recently

Gladys Clark, a native of Elba, Alabama, has with one gift of \$7,500 established a scholarship through the Enterprise State Junior College Foundation.

While making the contribution, Miss Clark conveyed her strong support for continued learning. "Education has a positive influence on everyone," said Clark. "And we are extremely fortunate to have a college of ESJC's reputation right here in our county."

Retired since 1977, Clark left Coffey County as young woman to work for a Eufaula lawyer. "This experience," she recalled, "ignited a life-long love of legal work. So, when I returned to Elba in the early 1930s I sought and obtained employment in the county tax assessor's office where I worked 10 years. In 1941 I ran for the office of Circuit Clerk -- a position I was to hold for the next 36 years."

Altogether, Clark worked for and with the people of Coffey County more than 45 years. She explained that the scholarship contribution was her way of giving something back to Coffey County, a county and people that have given so much to me. I love my home and by offering young people a chance to better themselves, perhaps this gift can make our county an even

better place to live.

According to Dr. Tim Alford, Dean of Development at Enterprise State, "The Gladys Clark Scholarship" will be awarded for the first time during the 1990-91 school term. The College Scholarship Committee will select a graduate of a Coffey County high school to receive the aid based on certain academic criteria."

The Enterprise State Junior College Foundation was established in 1982 for the purpose of raising private funds to help meet the needs of the College. The Foundation annually provides tuition scholarships which are based on the same general criteria as the ESJC academic criteria. Additionally, several named scholarships with specific criteria have been established by Foundation supporters in honor of or in memory of specific individuals or organizations.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to the ESJC Foundation should contact Dr. Alford at the College. Students interested in applying for ESJC scholarships may contact the Financial Aid Office. Call 393-ESJC or 1-800-874-3399 for additional information.



Miss Young
To Marry
Mr. Talbott

Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Young of Elba, Alabama announce the engagement and forth coming marriage of their daughter, Gina Annette, to Steve Paul Talbott, WO, U. S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester L. Talbott of Lorena, Texas.

The bride - elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Padgett of Elba, Alabama and the late Mr. and Mrs. Joe Young of Elba, Alabama.

Miss Young is a 1988 graduate of Elba High School and is presently enrolled at Troy State University, Troy, Alabama, majoring in Elementary Education.

The future groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Herman Nolte of DeFuniak Springs, Florida and the late Mr. and Mrs. Chet Talbott of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Talbott is a 1979 graduate named scholar with specific criteria have been established by Foundation supporters in honor of or in memory of specific individuals or organizations.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to the ESJC Foundation should contact Dr. Alford at the College. Students interested in applying for ESJC scholarships may contact the Financial Aid Office. Call 393-ESJC or 1-800-874-3399 for additional information.

Austin - Smith Wedding

Melody Dawn Smith of New Hope, Ala., and Delane Scott Austin of Birmingham, Ala., were united in marriage Saturday, December 9, 1989 at 5:30 p. m. at the New Hope Baptist Church. The Rev. Tommy Brill performed the double ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Therion Wayne Smith of New Hope, Ala. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Austin of Birmingham, Ala.

The entrance of the church was decorated with green wreaths accented with white delicate flowers and white candles.

Flowering green ferns on white columns flanked the front doors. White satin bows marked alternating pews in either side of the center aisle.

The mother's pews were marked with brass pew candles accented with white satin bows and baby's breath. The grandmother's pews were marked with white satin bows and baby's breath.

The sanctuary windows held greenery with white votive candles in cut glass holders. A large candelabra tree filled with white gladiolus, fringed mums, and white daisies was the focal piece of the choir loft.

Two seven-branched candelabras with seven ferns directly in front of each on either side of the candelabra tree. Spiral candelabra accented in front by jade palm trees flanked the altar to compete the sanctuary decorations.

Pianist Pam Baker of Elba, Ala., performed the musical prelude. Soloist Jamie Bass, cousin of the bride sang, "In This Very Room" and "Honesty". Lynn Reeder of Montgomery and Jamie Bass of New Hope, vocalists, presented two modern selections, "Together" and "Only God Could Love You More". Rev. Tommy Brill sang "The Lord's Prayer".

The bride given in marriage by her father, wore a beautiful white satin sheath designer gown, featuring re-embroidered alcon lace, high illusion neck, and long straight sleeves accented in alcon lace.

The bride's detachable chapel train with cut-outs was edged with hemline. Her veil was pearls and iridescent with large puffs flowing into a waist length of double-layered illusions.

The bride carried a cascading bouquet of white orchids, white ranunculus, white roses and calla lilies. She wore a white tulle train with large puffs flowing into a waist length of double-layered illusions.

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Mrs. Austin

Buna Faye Hornsby.

Following a wedding trip to Acapulco, Mexico, the couple will reside in Dothan, Ala., where the bride will be employed at Parsons and the groom employed by Yellow Freight System.

Pre-Nuptial Parties

On December 8, 1989, Henry and Lynda Austin entertained Dawn and Scott, members of the wedding party, and other guests with an after rehearsal dinner at the banquet room of the Holiday Inn, in Troy, Ala.

The bridesmaids were honored with a bridesmaids luncheon in the home of Mrs. Edd Fillingim. The wedding was an event of the College. Students interested in applying for ESJC scholarships may contact the Financial Aid Office. Call 393-ESJC or 1-800-874-3399 for additional information.

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As Decade Dawns, I'm Losing My Sheperd

By Faye Brown

I can't stand change. And when the change involves someone close and dear to me, the severing of a relationship - it is met with even more reluctance on my part.

That is why, as the decade dawns, my heart is torn over losing my shepherd. My dear pastor, Bro. Ed, is following God's voice to shepherd others.

JUST a "minister of my church" I could understand and maybe adjust to. But Bro. Ed is friend, family. He came to this church within two weeks of our arrival, 12 years ago. His Scooby and my Glen together have swatted bumble bees in my back yard and sweated gallons on Hale County's football field, defending the Black and Gold.

His Timmy and Johnny have buddied with my Greg, have put their feet under my table as my own sons. Together they counsel as the banquet room of the Holiday Inn, in Troy, Ala.

A sunflower seed bag party was held on November 12, 1989, at the home of Jan Bass, with Judy Killingsworth as co-hostess. Those attending included the grandmothers of the bride, aunts of the bride, Rhonda Hughes, Zella Mobley, Denise Smith, sister of the bride, and Heather Fillingim, cousin of the bride.

A miscellaneous shower was held on November 12, 1989, at the home of Betty McElhenny in Oxford. A lingerie shower was held on November 26, 1989, at the home of Zella Mobley in Jack, Ala. Hostesses were Zella Mobley, Diane Taylor, and Denise Smith.

An around-the-clock shower was held on November 28, 1989, at the home of Elizabeth Dyess in Jack, Ala. Co-hostesses were Peggy Storey, Betty McIntosh, Shirley Goodson, Estelene Helms, Lou Anne Bryan and Rea Young.

A Christmas shower was held on November 30, 1989, at the home of Myrna Rhodes in Elba, Ala. Co-hostesses were Jean Moore, Nelda Coleman, Mary Burke, Janice Smith, Charlotte Goodson, and Wayne Haywood.

The tables were decorated with arrangements of white mums and swans tied the petite bows of satin ribbon. After the meal, the bride presented her bridesmaids with glass and brass curio boxes and black earrings to match their dresses for their wedding.

The groomsmen's luncheon was a county buffet held December 9, in the home of Mrs. Edd Fillingim. The bride's maternal grandmother, the table held Christmas centerpieces of holly, candles, and bells. Others assisting with the luncheon were: Faye Rhoden, and

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er. It is because Bro. Ed has been, and truly is, a pastor, a shepherd of the sheep that God has entrusted to his care - not just a preacher on Sunday. And he is everyone's pastor - his "field" knows no limits. He visits, prays, and weeps over "sister Suzie's third cousin on her ex-husband's side of the family" as much as his next-door neighbor; his heart is one of compassion.

As Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem, so Bro. Ed has wept over Moundville. He has been the town's minister, not just the minister of The Baptist Congregation.

He has redeemed the time, the opportunity open to him in this town by speaking at the local high school, by winning the love of the students at ball games and pep rallies, by showing a love for sports and combining that with an example of high morals and service to Jesus Christ.

He has been a shining example and the whole town has come to love him. He has been willing to go to the ends of the earth for his family problems, regardless of their affiliation-non-affiliation with "his church." He has helped resolve their financial difficulties, he has moved to their home to counsel them, he has visited them at the hospital, visited their sick, buried their dead.

I have stood in awe - wondering at his endless physical strength, of how he could continue emotionally - seeing and hearing so much sorrow, so many problems. And often with me failing him - failing to "hold his hands up," to give my full support to him as I should have done as a leader in the church myself.

And as my selfless minister has given so generously of himself - so has his family given. When they moved to this town Scotty was only 12; he and his brothers did not get to see, to play with, to spend time with their dad as much as they would have liked. He was most often gone - serving others.

His wonderful dad lived alone, out in the hills. Bro. Ed was able to give him only hurried visits. Now it is too late. His dear wife Shirley packed for vacations, then unpacked explaining to the kids about someone's sickness or death that their dad had to minister to.

She left on a two-day trip with her mate after three years of no time away, only to be hurriedly called back home. She long ago gave up on trying to plan family meal times or hope for a leisurely shopping trip together, or a quiet time without the phone ringing.

And yet she has sacrificed it all with a loving, sweet spirit, a glow about her, and is so supportive of her husband. The church, the entire town, is going to miss Bro. Ed, but it is also going to miss his entire family.

The Lord has blessed our congregation under the leadership of Rev. Edwin King - we added a gymnasium, extra Sunday School rooms, when our families came to

the church. Wednesday night prayer service was poorly attended since there were no children's activities at that hour. (Girls in Action and RA's for boys met on Monday afternoons, with approximately 15 girls and 6-8 boys.)

One day Bro. Ed and I discussed changing the children's program to Wednesday nights. "We'll just have to grow us a Wednesday night church class," the visionary said.

And grow it, the Lord has done with the help of many, many in the church. Some Wednesday nights we now have nearly 75 children and youth. And they all love Bro. Ed. And I doubt that there are any of them who Bro. Ed does not know by name (and often, by circumstance).

Yes - as the decade ends my heart is sad over losing my shepherd. And yet - I still have my real, most important Shepherd. I will try to do as Bro. Ed has taught us to do - to love God supremely, to carry on His work, to work even harder now than before in order to help others pick up the slack until another undershepherd is led by God to our church.

For I believe that the best way I, and others, can pay honor to Bro. Ed's years of service here is to live out the love, the compassion for this town, that he has taught us by word and example. To remember the way he has faithfully lived with the Living Word, the entire Gospel - how he has evangelized continually - and remembering his example to go forth to do this ourselves.

"May God give you, another place in which to serve him and give you renewed strength with which to do it" is my prayer for Rev. Ed. King, my wonderful pastor for the past 12 years.

"And may you never forget that I - we - love you!"

Faye Brown's new book, "Chinches, Chunks, Pinks, and Chubbies Beers" will be off the press in February, 1990.

Dept. Of Revenue Offers Retired Military Licenses Plates

The Motor Vehicle Division of the State Dept. of Revenue is offering for sale Retired Military distinctive license plates.

The new plates will be available for issuance in January, and application may be made at the county courthouse through the probate office or other license plate issuing official of the vehicle owner's county of residence.

The cost will remain the standard fee of \$25, plus an additional fee of \$3 in years that the license plate is issued. There is no additional fee when the plate is simply reissued or replaced by a duplicate.

Current reissued or replaced plates cannot be issued or replaced after Dec. 31, according to Alabama Commissioner of Revenue James M. Sizemore Jr.

For further information contact the Alabama Dept. of Revenue Motor Vehicle Division, 205/242-9000.

Church Directory

IN HIM WE LIVE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.

THE ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION MEETS EACH WED. AT 11:45 - Hickory Flat.

HOUR OF TRUTH - WELB 1:55 AM - 1:58 PM. Sun. - Rev. James Rodgers

MOMENTS FOR THE MASTER - WELB 6:28 AM - 12:27 PM - 3:57 PM - Bob Fritchard

ALBERTSON BAPTIST CHURCH - Hubert McWaters

Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Sun

VIEWS FROM

THE PRESSBOX

BY RICKY MULARZ

We spent some of the holidays on the road traveling to see family and when you have two young children in the car with you, you just have to sit back and pray that everything goes okay. The trip to see my parents was a little longer than expected because of a ten-month-old with a hatred to a car seat, while on the way back home both the baby and our six-year-old daughter started crying a few miles out of town. The baby still wasn't thrilled with the car seat, while our oldest had a tummy ache. We didn't stop the car and I told the girls to see who could cry the loudest; however, when we drove up in the yard all the tears dried up and five minutes later the baby was cooing in her walker and her sister was outside riding her new bike. I guess sometimes the only cure is to be at home!

TIGERS MAKE GOOD SHOWING DESPITE LOSS

The Elba Tigers competed in the Dothan Progress' annual basketball tournament last week and even though the Tigers lost their first game, they made a good showing against a powerful Abbeville Yellowjacket squad.

The Tigers drew the Jackets because tournament officials obviously wanted Abbeville to have an easy first round game, but the tournament officials had to sweating it out late when Elba rallied and had two chances in the closing 10-seconds to pull out the win. The Tigers battled the talented Abbeville team for all thirty-two minutes and even in defeat had to have won the respect of their opponents and everyone in attendance. I don't believe in moral victories, but this loss didn't hurt as bad as some.

After seven games it is now clear that the Elba Tigers have the chance to win a whole bunch of games. The Tigers have the desire to give it their all every single minute of every single game, have one of the area's top players in Ronnie Daniels and also have a talented cast of players led by Ronald McKinnon, Jackie Stoudemire, Curry Jones, David Rowe and Kevin Barnes to provide plenty of help. Elba's bench is also deep, with players like Phil Bogan, Shane Spurline, Ernest Brooks and Hayden Young, making this year's Tigers a team to watch.

If the Tigers have a weakness, it seems to be in rebounding. Elba has good enough height in 6-4 Phil Bogan, 6-3 Jackie Stoudemire, 6-3 Curry Jones and 6-2 David Rowe; however, the Tigers just seem to be jumping and not blocking out their opponents. I know that the fundamentals will improve as the season progresses, but until the Tiger players use their bodies, as well as their legs, they will get out-rebounded on the boards.

COUNTY TEAMS TO DISPLAY TALENTS IN SEAC

The annual Southeast Alabama Conference basketball tournament will be held this week in Kinston with all three county teams in action. Here is what it looks like at county camps after four weeks of action:

***New Brockton lost in the opening round of the Dothan Progress tourney to fall to 7-1, but don't feel sorry for the Gamecocks quite yet. New Brockton has the chemistry to win a bunch of ballgames and the talent to threaten for a trip to the state tourney. Some say it's Coach Bobby Kinsaul's best team. I won't say that, but I will agree that this team has the potential to do some mighty big things.

***Kinston lost a couple of games before the break because of an injury to standout Brandy Nobles; however, the senior forward is now back at full speed and you can bet the Bulldogs are ready to get back on the court. Kinston has a very good 1A team that has both height and outside shooting and time will only tell how far this bunch will go.

***Zion Chapel has struggled a bit early in the season, but you have got to believe that the Rebels will hit their stride pretty soon and become a solid 2A club. The Rebels have four starters back from a year ago and one of the area's hardest working coaches to be found in Tom Walker, so, know better days have to be just around the corner.

COUNTY JUNIOR TOURNEY SET FOR NEXT WEEK

The annual Coffee County Junior High basketball tournament will be held next week at the Elba High School gym and once again the event should provide area fans with some exciting action. The tourney, sponsored by the Elba Athletic Club, will feature five teams in both the 8th and 9th grade divisions, and should be one of the best ever. Make plans to come on out and look in next week's paper for more details.

8th graders place third in tourney

The Elba Junior High 8th grade basketball team competed in a tournament last weekend on the campus of Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College, in Andalusia, and posted a record of 1 win and 2 losses to bring home third place honors.

Opp won the four team, round-robin event, while Andalusia placed second.

Following are highlights of all three games:

ELBA 48 RED LEVEL 28

Elba pulled ahead in the second quarter and then pulled away to rout the Red Level Tigers 48-28, in the opening round of the tournament.

Elba jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead, only to see Red level back and cut the lead to 14-12 by the end of the opening stanza. Elba began to take command in the second quarter behind the play of Keith Grantham and Cory Driggers and at the half went in with a 26-18 advantage.

Grantham's strong inside play enabled Elba to stretch its lead to 37-19 in the third quarter and everybody got in on the fun in the final stanza as Elba rolled to the lopsided 48-28 win.

Keith Grantham scored 15 points to lead Elba, while Cory Driggers and Josh Caldwell both added 8. J. Welcher scored 9 to lead Red Level.

Elba (48): Grantham 15, Yelverton 6, Driggers 8, Simon 4, Kyles 2, Caldwell 8, Vaughan 2, Boutwell 1, Barnes 2.

R.L. (28): Welcher 9, Burgess 7.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

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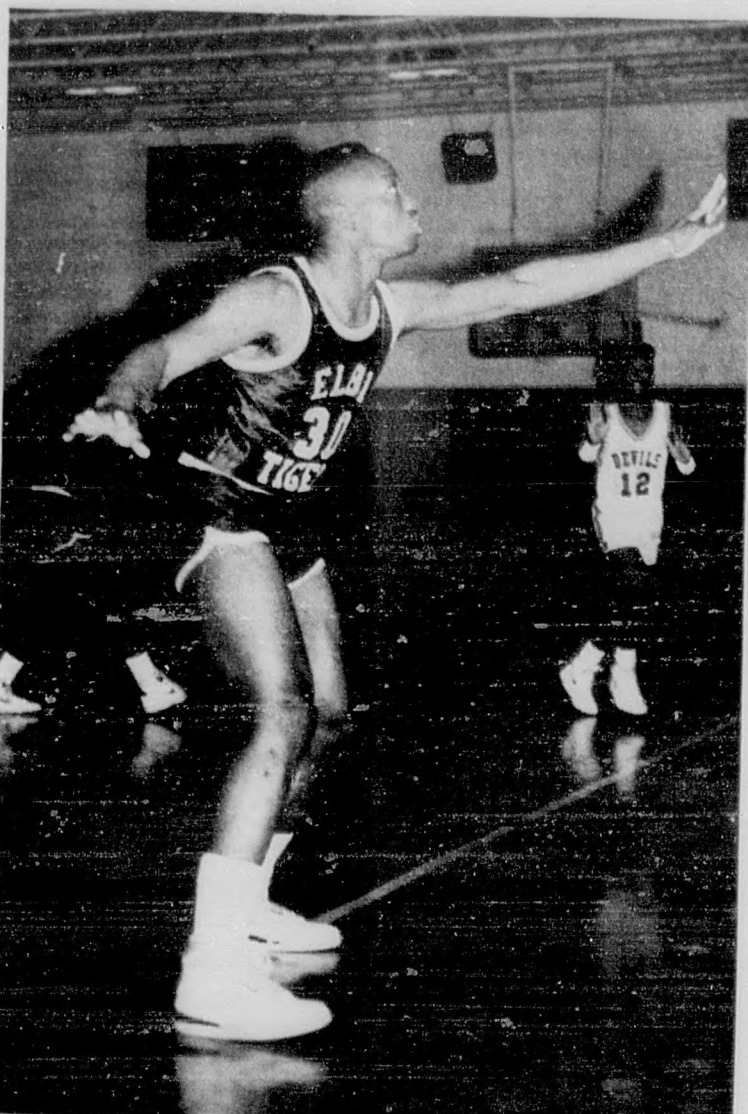
- FIRST - Is It The Truth?
SECOND - Is It Fair To All Concerned?
THIRD - Will It Build GOOD WILL And BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
FOURTH - Will It Be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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SPORTS

Tigers fall to Abbeville 63-62



GET ME THE BALL...Elba's Curry Jones (30) waits for a pass during a recent Tiger win. Jones will lead the Tigers Friday night when they travel to Enterprise for a battle with the 6A Wildcats. Jones is a 6-3 junior on the Elba squad.

The Elba Tigers saw a furious fourth quarter rally fall one-point short last week as they lost to the highly-touted Abbeville Yellowjackets 63-62, in the opening round of the Dothan Progress Holiday Tournament, held at the Dothan Civic Center.

The win upped Abbeville's record to 8-2, while Elba saw its slate slip to 4-3 with the loss.

The Tigers jumped ahead 2-0 at the start of the game on a layup by Ronnie Daniels and then swapped buckets with the highly-favored Yellowjackets as the two teams were tied at 14-14 with 2:18 left in the stanza.

Buckets by Curry Jones, Daniels and Jackie Stoudemire enabled Elba to break away and move on top 18-14 with 1:39 left and when Stoudemire hit a short jumper with :07 left on the clock the Tigers owned a surprising 22-15 lead!

The Tigers lead grew to 32-21 with 4:59 left in the half on a layup by Ronnie Daniels and it looked as if Elba might be on its way to a huge upset, but Ronald McKinnon brought the crowd to its feet at the beginning of the second quarter with a slam-dunk; however, the dunk didn't faze the Tigers and six straight points by Jackie Stoudemire early in the quarter gave Elba a big 28-19 bulge.

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A basket by Shane Spurline and two free-throws by Phil Bogan gave the Tigers a little breathing

room at 39-34 and when the teams went in at the half the Tigers carried with them a 39-36 advantage.

Elba's lead stretched to 41-36 at the beginning of the third stanza on a jumper by Ronald McKinnon and when Ronnie Daniels hit a pair of free-throws with 3:57 left in the quarter, the Tigers were ahead 46-40.

Daniels' free-throws were the last points the Tigers would score in the stanza; however, Abbeville took advantage of the Tigers' cold shooting to score eight of eight straight points and end the quarter with a 48-46 lead.

The Yellowjackets opened the final stanza with six straight points to up their lead to 54-46 and it looked as if the Jackets were about to blow the game open, but Elba refused to quit and reeled off eight straight points to close to within 57-56 with 3:52 left in the game!

A short jumper by Daniels with 1:59 left put the Tigers back on top at 60-59, and after a Yellowjacket bucket, Elba's David Rowe hit both ends of a one-and-one free-throw to give the Tigers a 62-61 lead with 1:03 still left on the clock.

Abbeville's Chris Trailer hit two free-throws with :44 left to give the Yellowjackets a 63-62 lead and Elba's Jackie Stoudemire missed the front end of a one-and-one chance with :10 left as Abbeville escaped with the narrow 63-62 win.

Bennie Daniels and Jackie Stoudemire scored 20 points apiece for the Tigers, while Curry Jones added 8 and David Rowe scored 6. Shane Spurline scored 4 and Phil Bogan and Ronald McKinnon added 2 points each. Perry scored 22 points to lead Abbeville, while Greg Grimsley added 20.

Kennedy looks for improvement

Elba's Coach Hank Kennedy went into last week's game for the Dothan Progress Holiday Tournament knowing that first round foe Abbeville could be more than the young Tigers could handle; however, following the one-point loss, Kennedy felt disappointed that his squad led a big win slip away.

"We weren't supposed to have a chance at winning the game," said Kennedy, "but our players never believed it, and had more than enough chances to win the game. We got off to a real good start and used the inside play of Curry Jones and Jackie Stoudemire to grab the lead. Bennie Daniels did a super job handling the Abbeville pressure and when we were still ahead in the third quarter we thought we would win the game. We got slowed down a bit when Ronald McKinnon and Curry Jones both fouled out in the fourth quarter, but we hung in there and had two chances to win it late, only to miss a free-throw and then turn the ball over."

"We still need to work on our ball-handling and have to get better rebounding," said Coach Kennedy. "Teams with quickness and teams that press cause us trouble, while we're simply too short to jump with a taller team. We've have to work hard on our ball-handling and put in a lot of time blocking out. We would like to be undefeated right now, but 4-3 isn't too bad and we feel like with hard work and desire the wins will come."

New Brockton Gamecocks fall to Ashford, sustain first loss

The New Brockton Gamecocks saw their perfect record come to an abrupt end last week in the first round of the Dothan Progress Holiday Tournament when they fell to the Ashford Yellowjackets 63-52.

The win upped Ashford's record to 6-2, while New Brockton saw its slate dip to 7-1 with the loss.

The Gamecocks opened the game ready to play against the 4A Yellowjackets and led by the inside play of Robert Kilow jumped out to an 11-6 lead midway through the stanza. Ashford, one of the pre-tourney favorites, picked up the pace late in the stanza; however, and closed the quarter with a 12-0 run that gave the Jackets an 18-11 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Yellowjackets appeared ready to blow the game open in the second stanza as their lead ballooned to 27-14 early in the period, but this time it was the Gamecocks who staged the rally as New Brockton used a halfcourt trap to pull within 27-20.

Robert Kilow scored 21 points to lead New Brockton, while Tony Newton and Chris Lasseter both added 11. Jerry Thomas scored 16 for Ashford, while Tony Pittman and Rufus Marshall both scored 13.

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SouthEast Alabama Conference tourney set for this week at Kinston High School

The Southeast Alabama Conference basketball tournament is underway this week at the Kinston High School gym, with the semifinals scheduled for tonight (Thursday).

The annual event began on Tuesday night with four games on tap.

Highland Home met Dozier in the opener, followed by contests between New Brockton and Goshen, Brantley and Red Level and Kinston and Zion Chapel.

Tonight's semifinals will begin at 6:00 and 7:30, with the winner of the Highland Home-Dozier game meeting the New Brockton-Goshen winner at 6:00, and the winner of the Brantley-Red Level contest tangle with the Kinston-Zion Chapel winner at 7:30.

The championship game will be played Friday night at 7:00.

Defending champion Brantley entered the tourney as the favorite, and after defeating 6A powers En-

terprise and Northview, it's not hard to see why!

The Bulldogs of Coach Earl Henderson are led by All-State guard Wesley Person, who carries a 40-point per game average, and is surrounded by such talented returning players as Chad Carpenter, Jeff Driggers and Anthony Young.

New Brockton suffered its first loss of the season last week to Ashford; however, Coach Bobby Kinsaul's Gamecocks should enter the tourney, with high hopes and have to be a solid favorite to meet Brantley in the finals.

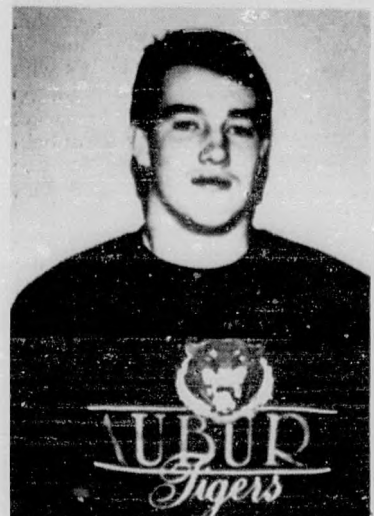
The Gamecocks are paced by the inside power of Robert Kilow (6-2), Chris Lasseter (6-4) and Malcolm Knox (6-3), and have one of the flashiest guards around in speedy Tony Newton.

If there will be an upset in the tourney, the teams most likely to make it to the finals appear to be either Kinston or Zion Chapel.

The Bulldogs of Coach Terry Weeks have one of their best teams in years and are paced by 6-4 Brandy Nobles, while the Rebels of Coach Tom Walker have four re-

turning starters from a year ago and are a team just waiting to put it all together.

Admission to each night's action will be \$2 per person.



Todd Boland to become "War Eagle"

Todd Boland, a two-time All-State performer at center for the New Brockton Gamecocks, made it official last week when he announced that he would accept a football scholarship to Auburn University.

Boland, a 6-4, 230 pound offensive and defensive standout for Coach Leavy Boutwell's Gamecocks, led his team to a 42-7 record during his career and in '88 led New Brockton to the runner up spot in Class 2A.

"Auburn is a great school with a tremendous football tradition and after visiting the campus I was convinced that it was the place for me," said Boland. "Auburn is a real down-to-earth school and it was easy to get to know the players and coaches. I wanted to play in the Southeastern Conference and I felt Auburn was the right place for me."

"I grew up an Alabama fan," admitted Boland, who was recruited as a center, "but my sister graduated from Auburn in 1986 and during her days there I began to like Auburn. My parents stayed out of the recruiting process and left the decision up to me, and they support my pick. I guess we'll all be Auburn fans from now on out!"

When asked about moving from a small high school to a major college, Boland stated "If you stop and think about it I guess it could worry you, but how well I make it at Auburn won't be decided on where I came from, but on how hard I work when I get there. Joe Godwin had a good career at Alabama and he came from New Brockton, so, I don't think there will be any disadvantage from being from a small town."

"Coach Leavy Boutwell gets a lot of credit for me becoming a football player and I know that he is one of the reasons I will get the chance to continue my football days at Auburn," said Boland. "He spent a lot of time with me when I was a young player and sat me down in the tenth grade and told me if I would work hard I could go on to college. I think being from a small school may have helped me because the teammates were all close and we all knew what we had to do. It was a great four years at New Brockton and I'll always be a Gamecock."

"Much of my success in high school, and hopefully in college, will be the result of my strength," added Boland. "All the players at New Brockton work hard on weights and I have worked hard to be as strong as I could be. I know that when I get to Auburn I'll have to work harder than ever to increase my strength, but I will probably be redshirted as a freshman and will work hard to get stronger and bigger."

Boland, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Boland, was recruited by Auburn, Alabama, Southern Mississippi, Georgia Tech and Mississippi State.

HIGHLAND HOME

JAN.2 3:00

DOZIER

JAN.4 6:00

NEW BROCKTON

JAN.2 4:30

GOSHEN

JAN.5 7:00

BRANTLEY

JAN.2 6:00

RED LEVEL

JAN.4 7:30

KINSTON

JAN.2 7:30

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